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Previous References

1948-49
(NIL)

File No 89-48
Serial Nos 12,13

Later References

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

p 8 (C)

Serial Nos Two

Part B for July '49

SUBJECT

Request from Prabhat Theatres, Bombay for exemption of Entertainment Tax

To The Secretary, to the Govt of India
Ministry of States
New Delhi

No L 120/D 4-7-49

Intimates the exemption granted

Police 10259

Grant of exemption to prithvi Theatres from Entertainment Tax

Letter No 1245-L/49 of 7 6 49 from the Govt of India, Ministry of States, requests that the decision taken by this Govt regarding the grant of exemption to prithvi Theatres from payment Entertainment Tax may be communicated to them early

1) Chief Secys orders "Very early

2) The original letter of 25 5 49 from the Govt of India referred to in the P U O has not been received in this Branch The grant of exemption from payment of entertainment Tax is not being dealt with in Home Br The papers may be transferred to Financial Br

15/6

15/6 3) Govt — on the L S G Branch-have, it is understood, already passed orders exempting Prithvi Theatres from the payment of Entertainment tax Will be transmitted to L S G by after perusal, for sending a reply to the Govt

CHIEF SECRETARY 1896 16 JUN 1949 GOVT OF MYSORE

Chief Secy 16/6/49

15/6
17/6

1272/mx

10,259
Mx

17/6/49

MS
Log w/c

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Dft reply to the Secretary to State,
Govt of India re his Memo to Govt

20/6/49

[illegible]

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[illegible]

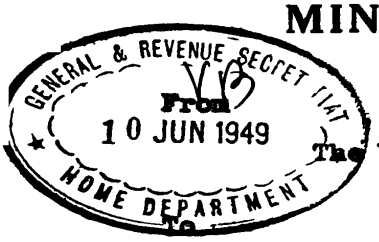
No. 1245-L/49.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF STATES

60,259

Mh 89-48-12



From

The Under Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of States.

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore

Dated New Delhi, the 7th June, 1949.

Request from Prithvi Theatres, Bombay for exemption of Entertainment Tax.

...

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter No. D.4018-G/48, dated the 25th May 1949 (copy enclosed for ready reference) and to request that the decision taken in the matter by the Government of Mysore may kindly be communicated to this Ministry at a very early date. The personnel of the Prithvi Theatres are scheduled to leave Bombay on the 9th of May 1949 for a tour of two months and were to stage their plays in Mysore during this period.

Yours faithfully,

Under Secretary
to the Government of India.

Copy of letter No D 4018-G/48 dated the 25th May 1948 from the Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of States, New Delhi, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore, Bangalore, etc

Request from Prithvi Theatres Bombay for exemption of Entertainment Tax

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of letter dated the 19th April, 1948, with enclosures, on the subject mentioned above from Mr Prithvi Raj Kapoor, proprietor, Prithvi Theatres of Bombay and to say that the Government of India consider that this Theatre is deserving of some encouragement in view of their noble effort in the cause of communal harmony As will be seen from the enclosures the Government of Bombay and the Chief Commissioner, Delhi have agreed to exempt this theatre from the payment of the Entertainment Tax. I am accordingly to request that the application of Mr Kapoor for exemption from Entertainment Tax for the plays "Dewar and "Pathan" as and when they are staged in the State may kindly be considered favourably

Copy of letter dated the 19th April, 1948, from Mr. Prithviraj Kapoor, Proprietor, Prithvi Theatres, Camp Regal Theatre, New Delhi, to the Hon'ble Minister for Education, Government of India, New Delhi.

.....

Most respectfully I beg to bring to your kind notice that I started my theatrical company named as "Prithvi Theatre in January 1941 with the object of reviving the Indian Stage and harnessing it to the service our country. Since then I have produced and staged three played "Shakuntala" "Dewar" and "Pathan". The fourth stage play tentatively called "Ghaddaar" or "Shaheed" is under fast production.

In "Deewar" we have tried to bring the past present and and the future of our beloved motherland before the eyes of the public in an allegorical way. The first show of "Dewar" was performed on the 9th of August, 1945. Since then it has been performed 365 times in different parts of India out of which about 40 shows were harnessed to the collections of the funds for national and humanitarian causes by our Congress Committee in different Provinces.

Our "Pathan" places before our people the ideal life of unity and amity for all communities, It has been hailed as a torch bearer of nation theory which has been he cause of all the havoc wrought in our country.

After every show I stand near the main exit and collect donations for national and humanitarian purposes I have been collecting these "Jholies" since the year 1946. About sixty thousand rupees were collected and handed over to the Managing Committee of the I.N.A. Relief Fund Bombay. Over and above this about fifty thousand rupees were collected through my Jholies for different national and educational causes. After that I have been collecting for Bengal Bihar Punjab Frontier and Sind Relief Funds and about fifty thousand rupees have so far been collected and distributed.

Taking into consideration the educational value of these plays the Bombay Government and Delhi Government have been pleased to exempt the shows of "Dewar" and "Pathan" from the payment of the Entertainment Tax in the whole of Bombay Presidency and in the whole of Delhi Province. The true copies of the Government letters are submitted herewith for favour of perusal. This benign gesture of the Bombay and Delhi Government helped me keep the theatre going during these hard times and under adverse circumstances when our audience's taste has been spoiled by the cheap entertainment provided by majority of our films.

I must add here for your information that the money earned by the theatre is not enough to keep the theatre going and creating and producing new plays based on the similar educational and nation building lines.

I started on tour so the advice of our prominent leaders and educationists who see my shows so that I may be able to carry this message of Education and service through Art to all nooks and corners of our beloved motherland. But touring is a very costly affair especially these days and particularly when I have two wagons load of theatre kit and 85 workers.

In order that the theatre may not be crushed in this attempt I knock at your doors for the following facilities:-

1. That my shows be recommended to all the Provinces and States for the exemption from the Entertainment Tax duty.

2. That our theatre be granted travelling concessions four our troupe and kit by Mail and Express trains on all the Railways,

3. That some yearly grant be sanctioned for my theatre to facilitate carrying on this renaissance work without compromising its quality for the sake of Box office.

Hoping you willgraceusly accede to this humble request and thereby help us to revive stage and harness it to the service of our country.

With profound respects.

Copy of letter No. S/90/25341-E, dated the 30th July 1947, from Revenue Department, Government of Bombay, to the Prithvi Raj Kapoor, Esq, Proprietor, Prithvi Theates, Bombay.

....

Subject:- Bombay Entertainments Duty Act Exemption from payment of Entertainments duty under-

In continuation of this Department letter No.S.90/24620-E dated the 9th June, 1947, on the above subject, I am directed to state that future performances of "Deewar and Pathan" organised in the city of Bombay in the mornings by the Prithvi Theatres will be exempted from the entertainments Duty for a period of one year from 1st August, 1947.

Copy of letter No. S/90/48044-E dated the 29th October, 1947, from the Revenue Department, Government of Bombay to Prithvi Raj Kapoor, Proprietor, Prithvi Theatres, Bombay.

Subject - Entertainment Tax "Deewar and "Pathan" Exemption of, from-

With reference to your letter, dated 16th September, 1947 on the above subject, I am directed to state that for the remaining period of the year ending 31st July 1948 exemption granted in Government letter No.S.90/34341-E, dated the 30th July 1947 will be exterded to all shows of "Deewar and "Pathan" held in the Province of Bombay.

Copy of letter No.F.41-47-Finance dated the 8th April, 1948 from the Assistant Secretary, to the Chief Commissioner, Delhi to the Deputy Commissioner, Delhi, copy to Mr.Prithvi Raj Kapoor Proprietor of Prithvi Theatres, Delhi and to the Secretary to the Government of India Ministry of Information and Broadcasting New Delhi.

Subject:- Exemption from payment of entertainment Duty under the Punjab Entertainment Duty Act 1936 as extended to Delhi Province.

With reference to your letter No.367/Excise, dated the 2nd April, 1948, on the above subject, I am directed to convey the sanction of the Chief Commissioner under sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Punjab Entertainment Duty Act 1936 as extended to Delhi, for exemption from payment of entertainment duty in respect of the performances "Deewar" and "Pathan" to be staged in Delhi Province by Prithvi Theatres from 9th April 1948.

C No

Ref on Pet No

App No

Dis No

Enclosure

Dated

Approved on

Copied on by

Examined on by

Signed on

Despatched o

Entered in—

Current / Petition / Appeal — Register on — By

Periodical

Reminded on

2 copies **DRAFT**

L&O/Ent 89-48-13

47

To

The Secretary to the Govt
Ind Necessity & Supplies
New Delhi

Docket Abstract

Request from prithvi Theatres, Bombay for exemption of Entertainment tax

Sir,

The correspondence end as noted in the reference to your

am directed ~~to~~ write

Letter No 12(5)-L/49 dated 7.6.49 on the above subject and ~~I am directed~~ to state that the plays the performances of plays by Deewar partnan Ghaddar and Shakuntala staged by the prithvi Theatres, Bombay have been exempted from payment of Entertainment Tax on the State

Your faithfully

for ~~Govt~~ Secy to Govt
20/6/49 Local Dept

Rs. 1. 12.5

WD 02530—GPB—50 000—2 4 43

L 120/AL 89-48-13
4/7/49

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of States,
NEW DELHI.

Sir,

Subject Request from Prithvi Theatres, Bombay for exemption of Entertainment Tax.

I am directed to invite reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No 1245-L/49 dated 7 6 49 on the above subject, and to state that the performances of the plays viz , "Dewar", "Pathan", "Ghaddar" and "Shakuntala," staged by the Prithvi Theatres, Bombay have been exempted from the payment of Entertainment Tax in State.

Yours faithfully,

General Secretary to Government.